

Initial Questions for CPSE

Background Information

- Provide a basic primer on electric power generation, transmission, and distribution with a glossary of technical terms in the primer and terms commonly used in the electric utility industry.
- Provide an organizational chart through the manager level for CPSE in effect prior to February 9, 2021.
- Provide the total MW hours produced monthly by each generation unit and supplied by each purchase power source for fiscal years 2019 through 2021
- Provide the total MW hours distributed monthly to the CPSE native load and sold to ERCOT for fiscal years 2019 through 2021.
- Provide the total MW hours purchased monthly from ERCOT for fiscal years 2019 through 2021.

Before (Preparation/Notification) prior to February 9, 2021:

- Based on prior weather events and current forecasts leading up to February 9th, what was the expected generation of power by plant and projected receipt from each purchased power source for the weather event from February 9th through the 19th.
- Based on prior weather events and current forecasts leading up to February 9th what demand projection was used by CPSE to supply their customers during the weather event from February 9th through the 19th.
- What modifications were made to facilities and protective actions taken by CPSE to assure the continued operations of the generation plants and distribution infrastructure during the weather event from February 9th through the 19th.
- Geographically delineate the circuits and explain how each circuit is designated as critical, low frequency, or interruptible prior to February 9th 2021.
- Describe the demand management system using automated or manual procedures to accomplish load shedding during the impending weather event.

- What communication procedures and specific points of contact were in place with customers, media, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), and other governmental bodies such as the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the suburban cities in advance of the cold weather event?

During (Execution/Reaction) from February 9th through February 19th 2021:

- How much power was produced by each generation unit or received from each purchased power source on an hourly basis for each day from February 9th through February 19th.
- What operational problems were encountered by plant from February 9th through February 19th and how were these problems solved?
- Did the demand management system and procedures in place prior to the weather event operate effectively to distribute the outages equally among the interruptible circuits. If not, what corrections were made during the event to assure a more even distribution of outages between the interruptible circuits.
- How many hours per day from February 9th through February 19th was each interruptible circuit not energized?
- What was the price and volume from each seller of natural gas on the prompt (i.e. spot) market from February 9th through February 19th.
- Provide the volumes delivered compared to the volumes expected on spot market deals from February 9th through February 19th.
- Provide the “day ahead” price for natural gas at Henry Hub, Houston Ship Channel, and Waha market price points from February 9th through February 19th.
- Provide the volumes delivered compared to the volumes contracted on natural gas contracts in effect prior to the February 9, 2021.
- Did ERCOT administratively setting the price on February 15, 2021 of electric power at \$9,000/MWh and holding that maximum price until February 19, 2021, incentivize CPSE to increase their production of electric power for sale to ERCOT?

- By artificially inflating the price of power on February 15, 2021 to \$9,000/MWh and ignoring free market energy prices across the system as low as \$1,200/MWh earlier in the day, did ERCOT send a manipulated market signal to the natural gas market, which prevented CPSE from acquiring natural gas supplies at true market prices?
- From February 9th through February 19th provide the amount, price, and timing of MW hours purchased from or sold to ERCOT.
- From February 9th through February 19th provide an explanation of each ancillary service provided by ERCOT and the daily payments or receipts for the ancillary services.
- What was the message and timing of each communication with customers, media, the Emergency Operations Center (EOC), partner relief agencies and governmental bodies such as the City of San Antonio, Bexar County, and the suburban cities from February 9th through February 19th?

After (Recovery/Corrective Actions) after February 19th 2021:

- Questions will be developed after receiving answers to the initial questions relating to the periods before and during the weather event.